Amusoments.

WINTER GARDES.
THIS EVENING-MERCHANT OF VENICE. Mr. Edwin Booth. WHIS EVENING-THE BLACK CROOK-Great Paristenne Ballo

WALLACK'S THEATER.
THIS EVENING—"OURS." Mr. Lester Wallack.

PROADWAY THEATER.
THIS RVENING-ALADDIN, OR THE WONDERFUL SCAMP-CINDERFUL A -The Worsell Sisters. THIS EVENING-BIRD OF PARADISE-GRAND CORPS DE

THIS EVENING—ENGLISH OPERA-ROSE OF CASTILE. Bick-

DAT AND EVENING—UNCLE TON'S CABIN, Mr. G. C. Howard TWO BUNDRED TROUSAND CUHIOSITIES—VAN AMBURGH'S COLLECTION OF WILD ANIMALS. THIS RUNNING-PIZARBO-TOM CRINGLE, Mr. W. H. Whal

white a THIS EVENING - JOCKEY CLUB RACES. New York Circu

THIS EVENING—ITALIAN OPERA—FRA DIAVOLO. PIPTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE.
THIS EVENING GRUPPIN & CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS. George

THIS EVENING-MADAGASCAR BALLET TROUPE THIS EVENING-M. HARTZ, THE ILLUSIONIST.

THIS EVENING-Mr. VALENTINE VOUSDEN'S ENTERTAIN THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING BUNYAN TABLEAUX Corner Twenty Birdest, and Broadway.

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ine. Sent, postage paid, on receipt of ten cents.
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MUSIC.

A concert, complimentary to the contralto singer Miss Florence A. Rice, will be given at the Brooklyn Academy, February 1, Friday evening, Miss Rice will be brilliantly assisted. This evening, Mr. Max Mill be brilliantly assisted. This evening, Mr. Max Mareizek's company, including Kellogy and Ronconi, will appear in opera in Brocklyn. At Steinway Hal, to-night, Mr. Jerome Hopkins, aided by Madame De Lussan. J. A. Dawson. Henry Mollenhauer, and other well-known artists, will give his fourth popular concert for the Orpheon Fund. Madame Parepa will give a matinée performance on Saturday. On Friday afternoon, at Steinway's Rooms, Carl Wolfsohn, an admired player of Beethovon, will play the celebrated Moonlight sonsta.

OBITUARY.

HON, DAVID RITCHIE. Mr. David Ritchie of Pittsburgh, Pa., who died on Thursday lost, was born at Canonsburg in 1812; was admitted to the bar in 1855, and subsequently pursued his studies in and received an hosarary degree from the University of Heidelberg, in Germany. In the Fall of 1852 he was elected a Member of Congress, and thereafter served with credit in the XXXIIId, XXXIVth, and XXXVth Congress. Gov. Curtin appointed him to a responsible Judgeship, and since that time, both as judge and lawyer, he has been held in high regard.

ARMY GAZETTE.

The following asset officers have been moved appointments in the regular army, and their regular having received appointments in the regular army, and their regular having been mastered out some time shoes: Major W. H. Damelton, 198th, and Brevet Major F. W. Watkins, 197th. The following officers have been mustered out and honorably dissharged the service of the United States, their services being no longe

Ideat Col. W. M. Beebe, 3r., 188th Regt., United States Colored proops; Brevet Lieut. Col. 2. M. Hong, 4th Regt. Colored troops; First Lieut. W. M. Mitchell, 724 Regt. Videous Reserv Corps.
Permission to delay joining the regiment for 20 days, from Jan. 28, has been granted Capt. John M. Bason, 5th United States Cavalry, Colored. Capt. John M. C. Corbin. 23th United States Instry, Colored, has been granted leave to delay joining his regiment sutil Feb. 10, 1837. The following special order has been issued from Gen. Grant's Head

NAVY GAZETTE.

OF THERMANN TO THE TRIBUNA Officer W. Greating of the Saranac has been appointed carpenter to the

Assistant Surgeon Productok Kanther.

Paymatar Robert Petter from duty, as President of the Examining Sound at Philadelphia and placed to maiding orders; Paymatter Janes Marroy from duty as a member of the Examining Board at Philadelphia and ordered to resume his stuties on the Contellation Paymatter James Pelitin and Peaced Assistant Paymatter Wm. D. Woodmil from duty as

New-York Daily Tribune.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 81, 1867.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address

on letters for this office should be addressed to "Tits Tain-UNE," New-York. We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

of the writer-not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty for

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To The second page contains letters from ou Special Correspondents at Nashville, Savannah, and Jacksonville, Fla., Arrest of an Absconding. Clerk, Board of Education, the Prisoners at the Tombs, the Union-Home Lottery, a communication concerning the Hudson River Railroad Accidents, the Court Reports, Commercial News, and other matters. The Markets, Police Trials, and other matters. The Shipping News will be found on the third page.
Keviews of George Arnold's Poems, and St.
Elmo, a Novel, appear on the sixth page.

Part of the foreign mail destined for transmission by the steamer Asia was lost off the wagon on its way to the wharf at Boston. Consequently, the steamer sailed without its mail, thanks to our perfect system of carrying. The mails are likely, however, to blunder into good luck; for they have been recovered, and will be dispatched by the next outward-bound steamer, of the Importance of checking a cough or "st. sour cond" in its first cand will reach Europe probably not later than the Cunarder, which takes sixteen days for its mail service.

> Tennessee, though held by Union men, and rapidly settling her industrial and political questions, has a Rebel population which does not appear to realize that the Rebellion is ended. Such outrages as the murders of Union men committed by Frank Farris, of which we print the particulars, are not uncommon, and indicate the temper of the Rebels, and the necessity that the Legislature should efficiently protect her loyal people by enfranchising the blacks. Permanent security is not to be obtained by military rule, but by justice to all.

The Hon. Garret Davis has just been reelected United States Senator from Kentucky for six years from the 4th of March next. . The Rebel and the Copperhead vote was combined upon him.

We are sorry for the Senate; but a body that unceremoniously helps itself to \$3,000 per man from the Treasury deserves to suffer. Let Garret increase the average length of his harangues to four hours and make two a day till they realize that "the way of the 'transgressor is hard."

The trouble on the Cheeves plantation, South Carolina, between the negroes and United States troops, was the result of long misman agement. A little common sense would have prevented it. The business relations of the freedmen to the planters in the South do not need to be determined by military power, and especially that power should not be always used against the negroes, as it has been. We should have no difficulties of this kind were 'we just to the freedmen. At the end of the war they expected kindness; disappointed in that, they demand justice, and justice is all they need; and we shall be satisfied if they get justice and nothing more.

Gov. Cummings of Colorado has not ceased to busy himself with defense. Thus, over the Governor's own signature, we have a series of resolutions wherein he is styled "His Excel-"leney," to whom "the thanks of the people of "Colorado Territory are due, and are hereby "tendered." Mr. Cummings maintains that he vetoed the law excluding negroes and mulattoes from the right to sit as jurors, and we trust that he did this at least a year ago. Since then, however, under a direction which has ill-paid his agency, Mr. Cummings has de-nied the people of Colorado character, population, and representatives. He may consider himself a model Governor; we regard him as too good to last long.

In the Senate vesterday the Tariff on Coal was, unwisely, not reduced. The duty on Borax was increased to 10 cents per pound, and on Borax crude to five cents per pound. The discriminative duties on stone were repealed, and a tax of \$4 per tun imposed on all stone, except that used for monuments. By vote of 18 to 15 the duty on Scrap Iron cast was raised to \$4 per tun, and on Scrap Iron wrought to \$3. The duty on brown and bleached Linens was changed to 4 cents per yard and 25 per cent ad valorem. The duty on Wheat was doubled, and placed at 40 cents per bushel; on Flour, etc., the duty was raised to 30 per cent ad valorem; 10 cents per bushel were imposed upon Oats, and upon Malt 40 per cent ad valorem.

At the municipal election held in Wheeling, West Virginia, on Jan. 28, the Democratic candidate for Mayor, together with the rest of the Democratic ticket, were, as usual, elected; but it is gratifying to learn that the Democratic majority was this year considerably reduced. Last year Mayor Sweeney, out of an aggregate vote of 2,481, received a majority of 515 over his Republican competitor; this year, out of a poll of 2,421 votes-or 60 less than last year-he received but 191 majority, a falling off of 324 votes. An equal decrease in the Democratic vote would next year elect the Republican ticket, and put Wheeling in harmony with the rest of the State, which at the election in 1866 again showed itself firmly attached to the principles of the Republican party, giving to the Republican candidate for Governor a majority of 6,644. There were, in 1886, only ten out of fifty-two counties which gave a Demoeratic majority. In five of the ten Demoeratic counties the Democratic majority was less than one hundred, and in nine it was less than three hundred. If the Democratic vote in these counties should fall off, as in Wheeling, the number of Democratic counties at the next election will be very small.

The Horald's Washington dispatch says: "The debate in the Senate to-day eatablished the fact that Massachusetts and Rhode Island are at least doubtful whether they will lose or gain by the proposed changes in the tariff. They are no doubt aware that the very high protective duties may foster serious competition with them, while well the present duties they may monopolize the greater part of American manufactures."

-Precisely! They are not the firmly established manufacturing interests that require Protection,

Protection will establish and sustain many manafactories in the West and South for every one it nurtures in the East. What, then, becomes of Secretary McCulloch's suggestion that high duties may create home monopolies? And what of the statesmanship of Senator Grimes?

RECONSTRUCTION.

Though we were confident from the first, we are very happy to be more fully assured. that Mr. Stevens was mistaken in asserting that the reference to the Joint Committee on Reconstruction of his bill providing for the reorganization of the ten States not now represented in Congress was equivalent to an indefinite postponement of the subject. On the contrary, we understand that the subject has already been taken up by that Committee, with a determination to perfect and report a bill that ought to be passed, and to pass it at this session if possible. And, though but five weeks remain, with very much to be done. we earnestly hope that their efforts may be crowned with success. Better let two or three Appropriation bills, or even the revision of our Internal Tax system, go over to the called session of the XLth Congress, than fail to pass a Reconstruction bill.

As to the great leading features of that measure, we have repeatedly offered suggestions that have not been favorably received; and we may fairly presume that the Committee desire no more from this quarter. Yet the subject is of such transcendent, such imminent consequence, and the peril of misdealing with it so very grave, that we must once more solicit their attention. Even if it were certain that our views would be disregarded, that would not discharge us from the responsibility of offering them.

The chief mistake made by Congress hitherto, in our judgment, is, that it seems to contemplate the people of the States lately in revolt as divided politically into barely two instead of the actual three classes, which are as follows:

1. Those who, though possibly coerced or frightened into yielding some aid to the Rebellion, were always at heart Unionists, and rejoiced when the Confederacy was overthrown. 2. Those who, sincerely believing in Slavery and State Sovereignty, went heartily and promptly into the Secession movement, and fought it out on that line until they were undeniably beaten; but now honestly and frankly say, "We appealed to the sword, and the issue 'is decided against us: we accept the result in good faith, with all its legitimate consequences; and will henceforth loyally maintain the Union as of paramount authority, and the rights of all its people as established by the triumphant Emancipation policy."

3. Those who-no matter what they may say or swear-are at heart just as much Rebels today as they ever were; and, being debarred from further open, manly hostilities by defeat, keep up a cowardly, sneaking warfare, by waylaying and assassinating individual Unionists, especially Blacks, beside burning negro schoolouses, and subjecting the unfortunate race to every form of abuse and outrage. These crimes, though seeming isolated and casual, are really prompted by the spirit of Rebellion, and imperatively demand the sternest and promptest repression, in the interest alike of natural justice and of National integrity.

Can we be wrong in our conviction that the action of Congress hitherto has seemed to ignore the second of these classes, and calculated to drive its members back into the third? If those who were once Rebels, but are to-day as hearty Unionists as the best of us, are to be treated exactly like Semmes or Pollard, how are we to develop and diffuse a hearty Union sentiment among those who have at any time been Rebels? Does not such treatment tend to drive back into the Rebel fold thousands who night and should be henceforth pillars of Unionism? How shall Unionism be expected to grow and flourish at the South, if we repel accessions to its ranks after this fashion?

We beg all to understand-since there seems now to be no obvious temptation to misconceive-that there is no "sickly sentimentality," no "humanitarianism," no special tenderness to criminals or repugnance to penal inflictions, in this view of the matter, but simply sound, hard sense. The distinction we insist on is real, palpable, and important. If we are ever to stop the murders and outrages to which loyal men are still subjected throughout portions of the South, we must have the aid therein of Unionists who were formerly Rebels. We can have it; it would be culpable not to have it. Then why not take such a course as promptly to secure it?

Mr. Stevens's Reconstruction bill of this Session was about the first submitted from our side of the House which clearly recognized that there were thousands of good Unionists at the South who have been Rebels. In this respect, it marked a signal advance in the Congressional apprehension of the subject. We think the positions therein, affirmed might be more happily developed and more accurately applied; but the right principle is clearly recognized in his bill; and-whatever else the Joint Committee on Reconstruction may do-we trust-nay, we entreat -that this principle be embodied in their forthcoming measure.

As to those school-district oracles who still talk as though military execution might be wisely decreed and extensively enforced against three or four millions of people, argument would be wasted on them. Silence refutes them with adequate cogency and respect. But to those who can distinguish what is practicable from what is nakedly impossible, and who would not have an empire lie waste, amid general poverty, insecurity, and suffering, while they prosecuted fanciful, illusory projects of vengeance, suggestions may be made with some hope of resulting advantage. To such, certainly, we need hardly urge the wisdom of embodying in the forthcoming measure of Reconstruction all the kindly, reconciling provisions that are intended to be carried into effect. If (for instance) there are to be no further prosecutions for simple treason, let the bill so provide. If there are to be no more confiscations, or none but under certain aggravating circumstances, let that likewise be specified. And let all the required conditions of Reconstruction be distinctly set forth; so that any State which shall in good faith comply with them shall thereupon be promptly restored to self-control and representation in Congress. We hope it may not be found necessary to leave anything essential to contingencies. Let us have a plan which executes itself, or which must at all events be executed. -Do we seem to cavil and complain where

the thick-and-thin partisan finds everything lovely and is entranced with admiration? Let us close with a citation from one of the greatest Americans (though he was a South Carolinian), Hugh S. Legaré, who concluded his memorable speech in the House against the Sub-Treasury scheme as follows:

strange and a great mistake. A TRUE PRIEND OUGHT TO BE A PAITHFUL COUSSELOR. Let them remember the deep repreach which the great poet puts in the mouth of one of his heroes:

I fills fluctoes:

Hadds thou but shock thy head, or made a paine,
When I spake darkly what I purposed,
Or turned at eye of doubt upon my face."

King John, Act IV., scune 2.

POLITE LETTER WRITING. Great painters have occasionally kept in their galleries, though Sir Joshua Reynolds held the practice to be dangerous, the worst possible pictures, in order to be constantly reminded of faults to be avoided. The Spartans taught their children the blessings of temperance by exhibiting a drunken Helot as a warning. All along our coasts we build light-houses for the benefit of mariners. Farmers in their corn-fields hang up dead crows to frighten the birds from pilfering, and the chief object of prisons and gibbets is not to punish but to prevent crime. Upon this general principle, we suggest that all future Secretaries of State should keep a copy of Mr. Seward's letter to Mr. Motley constantly before them, as a perpetual reminder of what Diplomatic Correspondence

should not be. Mr. Seward appears to have forgotten not only Mr. Motley's position, but his own, when he wrote this letter upon no better authority than that of a spy, who, by his own showing, was not entitled to the slightest credit. The authorized speaker for the Executive of the United States should preserve the decencies of official intercourse, under any real provocation; how then can he outrage them upon the mere report of an eavesdropper? Mr. Seward cannot even excuse his letter upon the plea that this talebearer was a trustworthy person, selected by himself for the duty, for his report, to any intelligent reader, would prove that the keyhole must have been too small for the creature's eye, or that the draught whistling through it had interfered with his hearing. Receiving such a report, Mr. Seward should have refused even to entertain it, except on legal proof that the crack in the door was large enough to

transmit conversation correctly. But the Secretary chose to place against the official position of Mr. Motley, his distinguished rank as a man of letters, his acknowledged patriotism, the scribblings of a vagabond, whose name even he was ashamed to give Mr. Motley, as authority; probably the same person, "so en-"tirely obscure," that Mr. Sumner regarded a similar letter "as nothing but anonymous, and threw it into the fire." Upon such idle or wicked report of a spy, self-constituted or employed, he chose to ask Mr. Motley for a confession of want of patriotism, contradicted by every word that gentleman has ever uttered.

Mr. Seward is probably the only American who can find no pleasure in reading Mr. Motley's reply. He has the satisfaction of knowing that Mr. Motley, with diplomatic reserve, has contented himself with denying that he ever said that Mr. Seward is "hopelessly degraded," or that Mr. Johnson's "whole conduct is disgusting." He is

"Not bound to all that slaves are free to, Utter his thoughts."

Nor has Mr. Seward anything to do with what Mr. Motley may think, or even what he may say, in the privacy of his household, when blissfully ignorant of Mr. Seward's agent at the keyhole or in the chimney. We respect that privacy; we do not even presume to conjecture how far Mr. Motley's opinion of the Secretary was changed upon reading his letter. But we are glad to know what Mr. Motley does think of a subject infinitely more important—the reconstruction of the Union-and we attach special value to his opinions upon that question, as they are those of a man who, since 1861, has been a calm observer of American affairs, uninfluenced by the struggles of parties, and beyond the dust and smoke of the battle. Not ordinary globe the work of sophistication goes on. In York; and answers the objections urged against respect should be given to such a man when he declares that strong guarantees should be taken against another-Rebellion and the reëstablishment of Slavery, before we admit the Southern States to Congress, and that the "noblest and "the safest course" would be an amendment of the Constitution establishing Impartial Suffrage and General Amnesty. Though Mr. Seward may be uncertain as to what Mr. Motley thinks of him, he can have no doubt of his thoughts of that wicked, fatal policy for which the Secretary has betrayed his own past and sought to betray the future of his country.

A MIRROR FOR GRIMES.

The World gleefully anticipates a solid Western opposition to the Protective policy, because that policy (it assumes) is advantageous and desirable only to the manufacturers of New-England and of Pennsylvania; and the latter, it says, are already adequately protected, so far, at least, as the markets of the West are concerned, by the cost of transportation from the seaboard. Yet it goes on to say that

board. Yet it goes on to say that

"The gross injustice of the duties on iron for the benefit of the Pennsylvania manufacturers will be still more apparent in the course of a few years, when the production of iron on a large scale is established on the banks of the Mississippi. It is well known that the State of Missouri has the richest iron mines in the world. The obstacle to their dovelopment heretofore has been the want of coal. But there has recently been discovered in Illinois, near the Mississippi, at a point just opposite to the marvelous Missouri from hines, vast coal-fields, in which thick strata are spread out beneath other thick strata, three in number, at various depths; the coal being of unsurpassed quality in its adaptation to the manufacture of iron. The present cost of transporting iron from Pittsburgh to St. Louis is 86 a tun; so that the new establishments on the Mississippi will have a grotection to that amount against Pittsburgh, and take away its Western market. When business reaches that pass, the absurdity of the Pennsylvania clamor for protection will be fully appreciated at the Wost. If the Pennsylvania clamor is then kept up, it will be for protection against Missouri, as that State will be the only formidable competitor for the Western market; and the idea of protecting the Missouri establishments against Europe, with a broad ocean and half a continent between them, and freight to be be paid all the distance by the European Iron, is wild and ridiculous."

—We commend the above exhibit to the earn-

-We commend the above exhibit to the earnest attention of Mr. Grimes, Gen. Lane, and other Western Senators, who used to be professed disciples and admirers of Henry Clay, but who seem of late to have gone a roving after strange gods. So far from Pennsylvania having a monopoly of iron-making for the Great West under a Protective policy-as those Senators strangely seem to imagine-Missouri iron, made with Illinois coal, is to have \$8. per tun the advantage of hers in that vast and almost hourly expanding market west of the Mississippi, which the Pacific Railroad is about to enlarge so rapidly and so immensely. Now if we are to go on making no more Iron (perhaps less) than we have done, it is quite probable that no more furnaces will be erected; and the vast resources of Missouri and Illinois may thus remain for years undeveloped, despite their unique advantages. But, if American Iron-making is to be largely and rapidly increased-as, under full Protection, it certainly will be-it is morally impossible that the new works should be constructed elsewhere than in that locality whence Iron can be most cheaply supplied to those who buy and use it. We call The World to witness that this is inevitable. A stone at rest may seem reluctant to move; but, once in motion, its obedience to the law of gravitation is in infancy. A good part of the New-England manufactories would live under any or no manufactories would live under any or no Tariff: not so those which are ret in the gorn.

Tariff: not so those which are ret in the gorn.

Tariff: not so those which are ret in the gorn.

Scheme as to double our professor of the next five years—as, for us to set forth! If he is to be at all protected under of iron within the next five years—as, for us to set forth! If he is to be at all protected under efficient Protection, we should confidently, he must protect that some of the measure, but are distance the creation of the city was remarkable not only the trees. Every journal of the city was remarkable not only the course to physic, it is totally needless for us to set forth! If he is to be at all protected under efficient Protection, we should confidently against unnatural mortality, he must protect that some of the measure, but are distance to physic, it is totally needless for us to set forth! If he is to be at all protected under of Iron within the next five years—as, for us to set forth! If he is to be at all protected under of the city was remarkable not only the event was remarkable not

plied to the trans-Mississippi region \$8 per tun cheaper from a combination of the coal of Illinois with the ore of Missouri than Pennsylvania can supply it; then the valley of the Missouri is certain to be mainly supplied with Iron by furnaces upon or west of the great river. If this is not so-The World being arbiter-we challenge it to say why it is not. And if it be so, then the outery against Protection, as favoring Pennsylvania and New-England at the cost of the West, is a false, delusive clamor, which, however natural as emanating from The World, old Clay Whigs like Mr. Grimes ought to be heartily ashamed of. Why not?

DEATH IN THE POT.

Those who, in spite of the Levitical law or the wisdom of Mohammed, will persist in eating lard, will be pained to hear that by a process peculiarly nasty-we beg pardon, but in Webster's biggest dictionary there is no word so proper to use-lame hogs, sick hogs, unwashed hogs, whole hogs, with hogs found dead in the street, are thrown undressed and uncleaned into a boiler, and the steam let on. The component parts of hog are thus severed, the solid parts sink, the lard is drawn off and sent to market as a beautiful, steam-refined article. What is then done with it is known only to the initiated. There are those who be lieve that it suffers another change into that mysterious and exasperating grease known as 'boarding-house butter," which, spread upon a hot and hideous abomination called bread made from that kind of flour of which we have recently spoken, and floated down into the human interior by pure Java coffee made of beans or something worse, alleviated by blue milk from the carts, and tempered by sanded sugar, has a tendency to produce that state of the physical system known as dyspepsia, and which we are sure not seldom ends in strings, and strychnia, and justifiable felo-de-se. In such case, the ingenious extracter of the essence of pig in Cincinnati may be regarded in a strict moral sense as a murderer; but there is a crafty way of taking off people of which the gentle grand juries never [take cognizance.

We know that this story of commercial adul teration and cozenage is an old and stale one, but we submit that it is a relief to write about it and to growl at it. In the Augustan days of Joseph Addison, that graceful essayist, who was an excellent judge of brandy, and died a martyr to his passion for trying it complained in The Tatler (No. 181) of "a cer-"tain fraternity of chemical operators, who 'raise under the streets of London the choicest products of the hills and valleys of France; who squeeze Bordeaux out of the sloe, and 'draw champagne from an apple, thus doing "great injury to his Majesty's customs and to 'the bodies of many of his subjects." Substitute "Internal Revenue" for "his Majesty's "customs," and of thee, O American Republic, the fable is narrated! It is not at all creditable to human nature

that such a phrase as "tricks of trade" should have become stereotyped, and that such a thing as adulteration should have been reduced to something like a mystical science, known to adepts and transmitted by tradition or in little books, from one generation of sharpers to another. Everybody knows it. It is no secret that there is a secret. "Caveat "emptor"-"Let the buyer lookout"-is a maxim of the benevolent common law; but how is a buyer of small stores for family use to be continually on the lookout for poison in the ounces or the pounds which he purchases for a daily or weekly supply of his kitchen? He must trust the small tradesman, and he (if he be honest himself) must trust the large one, and the large one is too often the last to be safely trusted. In all quarters of the an evil hour, here at home, the convenience and also the profit of grinding and granulation were discovered, and since then nobody has been sure of a good cup of coffee, nobody has sprinkled pepper on his chop without fear and trembling, no housewife has been certain of the spices which she used. And the general quality of all articles of this description has steadily deteriorated. It is so in everything. In solids there is sham and in fluids there is destruction. What stuff the imbibers of "pure old Bourbon" swallow, to the astonishment of their innocent and insulted stomachs, is known only to the "mixers"-what diabolical porridge is sold under the honored name of "lager," it is not probable that the brewers will tell us, unless they happen to quarrel among themselves-what dried foliage is smoked or chewed as tobacco perhaps the cabbage gardens and the brave old oaks could inform us.

But we considerately abstain from details. If one is to be fed upon witch soup (recipe in Macbeth), or cat-meat, ignorance is certainly bliss. But the best of the joke, and a striking proof of the adaptability of man to circumstance is, that the world is like certain hearty individuals who do not care what they eat or drink, and go on trustfully swallowing the most dubious dishes and beverages, fearfully and wonderfully made. In this very carelessness of the purchaser is the strength and safety of the adulterer. He expects and he gets nothing worse than an occasional growl, which does not in the least diminish the amount of his monthly bills against his patrons. He knows very well that, by sticking to the sale of inferior goods, he gradually debauches the taste of the neighborhood and brings down the standard of excellence. Having destroyed the palates of five or six of the blocks about his premises, he is thereafter at liberty to dust, and mix, and generally bedevil his wares, without the least fear of detection. He is responsible for thousands of stomach-aches, but he never hears of one of them. If an epidemic should break out in the vicinage, nobody can tell whether it is to be attributed to bad air, bad sewage, bad water, or bad groceries. The retailer has pocketed his money; the wholesalesman has pocketed his, and the undertaker has smilingly pouched his gratuity, and it is all right! Under such circumstances, is it at all strange that the bills of mortality swell so, and that the grim

old Reaper garners such a weekly crop of tender children and of tough adults? The wonder is that anybody lives in such localities, and that they are not, in the very middle of our municipal bustle, as lonesome and deserted as the Roman Campagna. It is only another proof of the wonderful adaptability of man to circumstances. Sometimes one sees a man with an excellent constitution after he has been working forty or fifty years to destroy it; and this individual phenomenon is to a certain extent repeated in the race. Man seems to be the only animal who can violate the laws of nature and live. How he lives-in degradation and squalor, the subject of diseases the bare catalogue of which fills folios, with what aches, and pains, and pangs, with what frequent howls to Hippocrates, and with what perennial recourse to physic, it is totally needless

pretending to do that. Perhaps in the next ces. tury he will really begin.

ANOTHER JOB OF THE SUPERVISORS.

During the riots in 1863, two buildings, situ-

ated on the corner of Second-ave. and Twenty. first-st., each containing a large quantity of firearms, were destroyed by the rioters. The Mayor of the City was interested in one of these losses, and presented a claim to the Board of Supervisors amounting to more than \$200,000, This claim was referred to Supervisor Blunt for examination, who promptly passed it for the full amount claimed, and it was paid by the Controller among the first claims which were settled. The arms in the other building belonged to a gentleman in New-England, who presented a claim for \$47,030 50, which was referred to Supervisors Davis and Purdy for examination. These gentlemen, after a protracted investigation, deeming it their duty to make as low an award as they could induce the claimant to accept, finally compromised with him at \$34,600, and reported it to the Board. The "Ring" of that notorious body, however, had not yet been seen, and the report was tabled. The agent or the claimant, having made repeated unsuccessful efforts to have the report acted upon; after being baffled for several months, was finally constrained to adopt a suggestion made to him, that he should see the Supervisor whose influence is reputed to control the majority of the Board. After a frank conversation with this official, he was referred to one of the clerks of the Board to arrange a final adjustment. This young gentleman, after several interviews, finally agreed that the bill should be passed in consideration of the payment of \$5,000 to the "Ring"-consenting, also, to increase the award, so that the extortion should fall upon the public and not upon the claimant, if the latter could induce the committee who had investigated the claim to alter their report. This alteration the unfortunate claimant could not effect, and he finally accepted the terms proposed, only asking not to be called upon for the \$5,000 until he should receive the money from the Controller. The agent of the Supervisors refused to accede to this, and demanded the cash in advance; whereupon the other party, thinking the matter was fully ripe, threatened an exposé unless the report was adopted by the Board before a certain day. The menace was effectual; the bill was passed at \$34,600, and the claimant felicitated himself that he had finally escaped from the clutches of these official cormorants. But he little knew how far the power of the "Ring" extended. Although the award was regularly audited and passed by the Supervisors, all his solicitations and importunities for payment were disregarded in the Controller's office, and he was compelled to institute a suit at law for the recovery of the amount. After much trouble and delay the matter was decided last week by a verdict of \$53,524 75 in favor of the claimant. It will be perceived that the sharp pracice of the Board of Supervisors in this instance has cost the county about \$19,000; but it is gratifying to reflect that the City-Hall thiever failed to secure the \$5,000 which they anticipated. It is not less consoling to be told that the Legislature is likely to put an end to the robberies of the Board of Supervisors, by terminating their existence.

THE GERMANS AND THE EXCISE LAW. The New-York Sahbath Committee have issued for general circulation an Appeal to the Germans of New-York and vicinity in behalf of the present Excise Law. It is a timely document. It is moderate and kind in tone, and convincing in argument. It explains to them the nature of the law; refutes the gross misrepresentations of its enemies; shows its necessity and usefulness in a city like Newit. In an appendix, it gives statistics and facts setting forth the evils of the Sunday Liquor Traffic, in its connection with crime, pauperism and taxation; gives extracts from the decision of Judge Allen on the constitutional basis

of our Sunday laws, and from the late decision

of the Court of Appeals sustaining the act,

and official statements from the Metropolitan Police concerning the striking fiscal and moral

results of the law. This pamphlet must exert a favorable influence upon the cause of order and morals in the City. The German Mass Meeting in Cooper Institute last Sunday shows conclusively that a large number of Germans of all classes are in full sympathy with the vast majority of Americans on the Excise and Sunday question, and demand a fair trial for the law. The force of the German opposition to the law is effectually broken. So soon as you tamper with the law and exempt lager-beer, you make it practically worthless. Let the law be faithfully and vigorously executed, and it will soon produce a revolution of sentiment among those who are now opposed or indifferent to it.

The Express points to the Senate's vote to impose (or rather, retain) a duty of \$14 per tun on imported Bituminous Coal, as one of "the cruelties and follies of monopolists, bounty men, modern protectionists, of all kinds. No matter how much misery they inflict upon the multitude, they seem to care not if they can feather their own nests."

-Now, will The Express tell its readers who proposed that duty? and name those Senators whom it considers Democrats who voted for, and then those who voted against it? Let us see if you can be honest!

THE NEW SENATORS.

HON. GARRET DAVIS. The Hon. Garret Davis, who has been reelected Senator for Kentucky, is a native of that State, and was born in 1801. He received a liberal education, and, after serving for some time as a writer in the County and Circuit Courts of his district, he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1823. In 1833 he law and was admitted to the bar in 1823. In 1833 he was elected for the first time to the State Legislature, to which he was twice reflected. In 1839 he was chosen a member of the State Constitutional Convention; the same year he was sent to Congress as Representative from Kentucky, and retained his seat until 1847, when he declined a reflection. In 1861 he was elected a Senator in Congress from his native State for the term which has just expired, and in that capacity has served on several important Committees. From 1864 to 1865 he was Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, and was one of the Senators designated by the Senate to attend the funeral of Gen. Scott last year. Mr. Davis enjoyed the friendship of Henry Clay for many years previous to the death of that eminent Statesman. Agricultural pursuits have divided his attention with the duties of his professional calling, to which he has actively davoted himself, with no small measure of success.

PERSONAL.

Gen. Charles G. Halpine, whose identity has frequently been confused with that of one "Miles O'Reilly," was on Tuesday evening the guest of a large number of his fellow journalists of this city, at a dinner given at Sutherland's Hotel. These gentlemen, who, without tinction of party, desired to give Gen. Halpine some preof their respect for his abilities as a journalist, and his services to the public with sword and pen, properly thought no better occasion could be found than his elec-tion as Register of New-York. Gen. Halpine received this honor and trust by the suffrages of our best citizens, who, for once, abandoned party for the sake of the general is-terest. Every journal of the city was represented, and the event was remarkable not only for the recognition of Gen. Halpine's merits, but for the too rare convention